

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-24 are now pending in this application.

Claim 3 was amended to remove the multiple dependency.

This amendment changes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Entry of these amendments is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Applicants hereby request examination on the merits.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 6/9/04

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